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D-2872CIP

7

REMARKS

The above-identified application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Examiner's communication mailed November 28, 2003, which included a final rejection of all claims presented. Applicant submits that the amendments and remarks included herein show the present claims to be allowable or, if necessary, in better form for appeal. Therefore, applicant respectfully requests that this Response be entered and considered on its merits.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 11. Claim 11 has been canceled in view of the amendment to claim 1. Claims 12, 13 and 14 have been amended to be consistent with the amendment to claim 1 and the cancellation of claim 11.

Independent claims 16 and 21 have been amended in a manner consistent with the amendment noted above to claim 1. In addition, claim 21 has been amended to make clear that the housing has no internal battery, again to be consistent with the other independent claims.

Each of the amendments is fully supported by the present specification. Also, the additional features included in the currently amended claims have already been presented in prior claims. For example, the subject matter of claim 11 has been included in independent claim 1, as well as substantially in independent claim 16 and 21. Therefore, applicant submits that no new issues are presented.

Applicant notes that pending claim 25 has not been addressed by the Examiner.

Claims 1, 2 and 4 to 15 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Baker et al in view of Powerware 5140. Claim 3 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Baker et al in view of Powerware 5140 and further in view of Kozlowski et al. Claims 16 to 24 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Baker et al in view of Powerware 5140 and Domigan. Applicant traverses each of these rejections as they pertain to the present claims 1 to 10 and 12 to 25.

D-2872CIP

8

The present claims are directed to power distribution units or systems which include power distribution units. Each of the power distribution units recited in the present claims includes a housing including no internal battery.

In addition, each of the power distribution units recited in the present claims include a plurality of hard-wired output connections and at least one plug-in receptacle, or a plurality of plug-in receptacles. Each of the hard-wired output connections is structured and adapted to be hard-wired to a piece of equipment to provide electrical power. Each of the plug-in receptacles is adapted to receive an equipment plug to provide electrical power.

The present power distribution units are structured to provide a substantial degree of flexibility and versatility, as well as advantageously being comprised so that the housing of the unit is rack-mountable. Each of the present power distribution units comprises a plurality of hard-wired output connections and at least one plug-in receptacle, or a plurality of such plug-in receptacles. Thus, each of the present power distribution units is advantageously couplable to be to a wide variety of different types of equipment.

In addition, the housings of the presently claimed power distribution units are recited as including no internal battery. Thus, the present power distribution units are not uninterruptible power supplies (UPSs). In short, the above-noted recitation in each of the present claims clearly, directly and expressly distinguishes the presently claimed power distribution units from uninterruptible power supplies (UPSs) which, by definition, include a battery.

Baker et al discloses a power distribution unit including a housing having no internal battery. Baker et al discloses that the power distribution unit includes a plurality of plug-in receptacles.

Baker et al does not disclose, teach or suggest the present invention. For example, Baker et al does not disclose, teach or even suggest a power distribution unit including an output

D-2872CIP

9

connection structured and adapted to be hard-wired to a piece of electric equipment, let alone a plurality of such hard-wired output connections as recited in the present claims.

The Examiner improperly relies on Powerware 5140 to supply the deficiencies apparent in the teachings of Baker et al.

Powerware 5140 discloses uninterruptible power supplies (UPSs), which include batteries.

Importantly, the Powerware 5140 User's Guide itself makes absolutely clear the distinction between an uninterruptible power supply (UPS), which includes its own internal power supply (i.e., a battery) and a power distribution unit (such as shown in Figure 15 of the User's Guide). As is typical of a conventional power distribution unit, the power distribution unit shown in the Powerware 5140 guide includes no battery and includes only a plurality of plug-in receptacles with no hard-wire output connections.

It is also noted that the power distribution unit of Figure 15 of the User's Guide appears remarkably similar to the system shown in Baker et al and appears to have two plug-in receptacles but no hard-wired outlet connection.

Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to consider the attached definition of an uninterruptible power supply (UPS), taken from a government web page having address [http://www.blrdoc.gov/fs-1037/dir-039/\\_5702.htm](http://www.blrdoc.gov/fs-1037/dir-039/_5702.htm). It is well known that an UPS is a device which includes one or more batteries to guarantee continuous power provided to equipment even if a main source of power is interrupted.

In addition, the differences and distinctions between the power distribution units of Baker et al and the UPSs of Powerware 5140 are so clear and substantial that one of ordinary skill in the art would find no motivation to combine the teachings of these references for any purpose, let alone for the purpose of making obvious the present invention.

Such combination of Baker et al and Powerware 5140 would require a complete dismantling, disassembling, and reconfiguring to

D-2872CIP

10

make the UPS of Powerware 5140 into a power distribution system having no internal battery. Moreover, the dismantled disassembled/reconfigured system of Powerware 5140 would not be functional as an UPS without a battery. Thus, the Powerware 5140 system cannot be modified to be structured to have no battery and still have a plurality of hard-wired output connections and one or more plug-in receptacles. Applicant submits that persons of ordinary skill in the art would find no basis or motivation in the teachings of Baker et al and Powerware 5140 for even considering combining the teachings of Baker et al and Powerware 5140, let alone actually succeeding in doing so and obtaining the power distribution units of the present invention.

In addition to necessarily including a battery, the UPS of Powerware 5140 includes only a single hard-wired output connection and not a plurality of such hard-wired output connections, such as claimed in all of the present claims. This deficiency of Powerware 5140 is particularly important since the primary reference, Baker et al discloses only systems which include no hard-wired output connections.

In summary, even if the Examiner were to somehow succeed in erroneously combining the power distribution unit of Baker et al with the uninterruptible power supply of Powerware 5140, such combination would not yield the presently claimed invention. The uninterruptible power supply of Powerware 5140 includes only a single hard-wired output connection, whereas the presently claimed power distribution units comprise a plurality of hard-wired output connections (as well as at least one plug-in receptacle outlet connection). As noted above, and as acknowledged by the Examiner, the power distribution unit of Baker et al includes no hard-wired output connections.

In contrast, the present claims require a power distribution unit having a housing including no battery, a plurality of hard-wired output connections, and at least one, or a plurality of, plug-in receptacle output connections.

Powerware 5140 clearly, directly and expressly distinguishes

D-2872CIP

11

uninterruptible power supplies (UPSs) from power distribution units. Applicant, by reciting in the present claims that the housing includes no internal battery, makes clear that the present claims are directed to power distribution units and not to UPSs.

If any thing, the power distribution unit set forth in Figure 15 of the Powerware 5140 User's Guide might be used in combination with the power distribution unit of Baker et al to modify the Baker et al unit. However, such combined unit includes not even one hard-wired output connection, let alone a plurality of hard-wired output connections, as recited in the present claims.

Simply put, the Examiner has no basis in fact whatsoever for combining the battery-containing uninterruptible power supply (UPS) of Powerware 5140 with the power distribution unit of Baker et al for the purpose of making obvious the present invention.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the rejection in light of the above remarks. Applicant submits that the rejection is simply not properly, or even reasonably, based.

In view of the above, applicant submits that the present claims, and in particular claims 1, 2 and 4 to 15, are unobvious from and patentable over Baker et al in view of Powerware 5140.

Neither Kozlowski et al nor Domigan, alone or in any combination, supplies the deficiencies apparent in the teachings of Baker et al and Powerware 5140. In particular, the fact that Kozlowski et al discloses a power distribution unit comprising front and back doors does not, even together with the deficient teachings of Baker et al and Powerware 5140, make obvious the present claims.

Further, the fact that Domigan teaches an electrical power distribution unit comprising a plurality of interconnected power distribution units does not, even in combination with the deficient teachings of Baker et al and Powerware 5140, make obvious the present claims.

In view of the above, applicant submits that all of the present claims, that is claims 1 to 10 and 12 to 25 are unobvious from and patentable over Baker et al, Powerware 5140, Kozlowski et

D-2872CIP

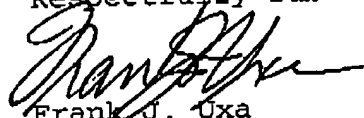
12

al and Domigan, taken alone or in any combination, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Each of the present dependent claims is separately patentable over the prior art. For example, none of the prior art, taken singly or in any combination discloses the present power distribution unit and systems including the additional feature or features recited in any of the present dependent claims. Therefore, applicant submits that each of the present claims is separately patentable over the prior art.

In conclusion, applicant has shown the present claims are unobvious from and patentable over the prior under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Therefore, applicant submits that the present claims, that is claims 1 to 10 and 12 to 25 are allowable and respectfully requests the Examiner to pass the above-identified application to issuance at an early date. Should any matters remain unresolved, the Examiner is requested to call (collect) applicant's attorney at the telephone number given below.

Respectfully submitted,



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These search terms have been highlighted: **uninterruptible power source**  
These terms only appear in links pointing to this page: **definition**

## uninterruptible power supply (UPS)

**uninterruptible power supply (UPS):** A device that is inserted between a primary power source, such as a commercial utility, and the primary power input of equipment to be protected, e.g., a computer system, for the purpose of eliminating the effects of transient anomalies or temporary outages. *Note 1:* An UPS consists of an inverter, usually electronic, that is powered by a battery that is kept trickle-charged by rectified ac from the incoming power line fed by the utility. In the event of an interruption, the battery takes over without the loss of even a fraction of a cycle in the ac output of the UPS. The battery also provides protection against transients. The duration of the longest outage for which protection is ensured depends on the battery capacity, and to a certain degree, on the rate at which the battery is drained. *Note 2:* An UPS should not be confused with a standby generator, which may not provide protection from a momentary power interruption, or which may result in a momentary power interruption when it is switched into service, whether manually or automatically.

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